

Amy Harvey

From: Anna Mercer-McLean <amercermclean@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, June 07, 2023 5:02 PM
To: Pam Hemminger; CHRIS BLUE; Atuya Cornwell; Ann Anderson; Amy Ryan; Adam Searing; James Baker; Camille Berry; Jeanne Brown; Mary Jane Nirdlinger; Loryn Clark; Jeanette Coffin; Jess Anderson; Carolyn Worsley; Karen Stegman; Paris Miller-Foushee; Ran Northam; Ross Tompkins; Michael Parker; Amy Harvey; Shay Stevens; Tai Huynh; Sabrina Oliver; Jerry Edwards; sknbalog; willis dc@gmail. com
Subject: Pennies for Parks Fund - Tennis Court Resurfacing

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TO: Town of Chapel Hill Officials

Thank you for your approval of the resurfacing of the tennis courts at Hargraves Center. We are appreciative that tennis programming will be available to many more youth who do not have the opportunity to play the sport. We encourage the addition of 10 and under lines to all new and existing tennis courts, so that both youth and adults of all ages can truly enjoy the sport with the right size court, ball and racquet.

The Chapel Hill tennis community has been engaged with Chapel Hill Parks and Recreation over the past 2 years to share their growing needs for dedicated tennis courts, and the need to resurface courts such as Cedar Falls that has not been done in 23 years. Also, the Oakwood tennis court needs to be resurfaced. Ephesus with only 4 tennis courts is the only tennis facility in good condition; and it has a shared use with pickleball that has triple the court availability across the Town of Chapel Hill. Tennis needs dedicated space.

We understand that the Town Council will be discussing and voting on a Pennies for Parks Fund. We would like to recommend that you vote and approve a 5.5% percent Pennies for Parks Fund, so that these funds may be used to upgrade and repair the Parks and Recreation facilities that need immediate attention, such as the tennis courts at Oakwood and Cedar Falls. Cedar Falls needs additional funding to reach its goal for resurfacing. We hope that you will prioritize this in your budget, so that the more than 1,800 tennis players in the town can enjoy tennis and not have to worry about injuries; and have an amazing user experience.

With the number of schools playing tennis in the Town of Chapel Hill area, it would behoove the Town to maintain these facilities in excellent condition. We don't want to miss the next Serena Williams, Jessica Pegula, Roger Federer or Frances Tiafoe coming from one of your high school teams who will go on to be a professional tennis player or coach, one day.

Thank you for your service and consideration.

Anna Mercer-McLean
USTA/NC Area 4 Director
Board, Durham-Orange Community Tennis Association